## NOTICE OF UTILITY'S REQUEST FOR ETC DESIGNATION

The REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA (Commission) hereby gives notice that TelAlaska, Inc. d/b/a TelAlaska Cellular, Inc. (TelAlaska Cellular) has filed a request for designation as a wireless Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) in the study area currently served by Mukluk Telephone Company, Inc. (Mukluk). This study area includes the exchanges of Elim, Golovin, Koyuk, Little Diomede Isle, Nome, Shaktoolik, Shishmaref, St. Michael, Stebbins, Teller, Wales, and White Mountain. Docket U-09-089 was opened to address this matter.

TelAlaska Cellular must obtain ETC status in order to receive universal service funding. This funding is intended to be used for provisioning, maintaining, and upgrading qualifying services and facilities. It also allows for reduced rates and benefits for low-income customers under the Lifeline and Link Up Programs. TelAlaska Cellular proposes to provide facilities-based wireless phone service throughout the Mukluk study area using existing and proposed wireless telephone facilities.

The Commission may approve or deny (in whole or in part) TelAlaska Cellular's request for ETC designation, impose conditions on approval, or take other actions to protect the public interest resulting from the ETC petition. You may obtain more information about this filing from Robert M. Dunn, Director of Regulatory Affairs for TelAlaska Cellular, 201 East 56<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99518; phone number (907) 563-2003. You may inspect the filing at the Commission's office at 701 W. 8th Avenue, Suite 300, Anchorage, Alaska 99501; phone number (907) 276-6222. You may also view the filing via our website at <a href="http://rca.alaska.gov/RCAWeb/home.aspx">http://rca.alaska.gov/RCAWeb/home.aspx</a>.

To comment on this filing, please file your comments by September 18, 2009, at address above via either Commission given or our https://rca.alaska.gov/RCAWeb/WhatsNew/PublicNoticesComments.aspx. Please refer to Docket U-09-089 in your response and include a statement that you have filed a copy of the comments with TelAlaska Cellular. Individuals or groups of people with disabilities, who require special accommodations, auxiliary aids or service, or alternative communication formats, please contact Joyce McGowan at (907) 276-6222, toll-free at 1-800-390-2782, or TTY (907) 276-4533 or send a request via electronic mail to rca.mail@alaska.gov by September 8, 2009.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska this 18th day of August, 2009.

REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA

Robert M. Pickett

Chairman